

## About the MCSW:

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is an independent state agency that was established in 1998 to provide a permanent, effective voice for women across Massachusetts.

The purpose of the Commission is to advance women toward full equality in all areas of life and to promote their rights and opportunities.

The MCSW is comprised of 19 Commissioners drawn from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, age, sexual orientation and socioeconomic backgrounds from throughout the Commonwealth.

### The Commission is Empowered to:

- Study and report on the status of women in Massachusetts.
- Provide referrals and serve as a resource of information on issues pertaining to women
- Promote and facilitate collaboration among various women's organizations
- Inform leaders of business, education, health care, state and local governments and the media of issues pertaining to women
- Advise executive and legislative bodies on the effect of proposed legislation on women
- Serve as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with issues affecting women.

## To Request a Speaker:

You may submit an electronic request via our website, [www.mass.gov/women](http://www.mass.gov/women), or mail your written request to the address below.

### Please include the following information:

- Date, time and location of your event
- Number of people expected
- Topic or issue you would like discussed
- Preferred Speaker(s)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Speakers are free of charge. However, tax-deductible donations to the MCSW are always welcomed to help subsidize MCSW's operating and special project expenses.



## SPEAKERS BUREAU

## The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women



### Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women

Charles F. Hurley Building,  
19 Staniford St., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

Phone: (617) 626-6520

Fax: (617) 626-6530

TTY: 711-617-626-6520

E-mail: [mcsw@state.ma.us](mailto:mcsw@state.ma.us)

Web: [www.mass.gov/women](http://www.mass.gov/women)

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."*

~ Margaret Mead ~

## About the Speakers Bureau

The **MCSW Speakers Bureau** lends the services of our Commissioners and staff to speak about various issues that impact women throughout Massachusetts.

Through this service, the Commission hopes to raise awareness of women's issues, educate women about the resources of the Commission, and strive for positive change for women in the Commonwealth.

## Available Speakers

For bios and photos please visit [www.mass.gov/women/aboutus/bios.htm](http://www.mass.gov/women/aboutus/bios.htm).

### Commissioners

Ruth Bramson, *Dover*

*Pay Equity, Women in Business*

Linda Cavaoli, *Worcester*

*Domestic Violence, Pay Equity, Child Care*

Erika Ebbel, *Cambridge*

*Women in Education, Math, Science*

Catherine Greene, Esq., *Brighton*

*Women in Politics, Business & Organizing*

Elizabeth H. Houlihan, *Falmouth*

*Pay Equity, Women in Business*

Pam Malumphy, *Pittsfield*

*Women in Politics*

Madhu Sridhar, *Andover*

*Voter Participation, Immigration*

Greer Tan Swiston, *West Newton*

*Work/Life Balance*

### Staff

Linda Brantley, *Executive Director*

Jill Ashton, *Outreach Coordinator*

Kim Sebastiao, *Program Coordinator*

## Potential Topics Include

*(but are not limited to)*

### The Status of Women In MA

#### Societal Issues

- Public Health and Safety
- Homelessness
- Violence Against Women
- Governmental Participation
- Legislative Initiatives

#### Education

- Women Returning to School
- Mentoring
- Path to Economic Self-Sufficiency

#### Employment

- Pay Equity
- Labor Issues
- Job Training
- Women in Business
- Economic Empowerment

### Families

- Teen Pregnancy
- Daycare/Childcare
- Family Leave

### Health

- Health Care
- HIV/AIDS
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- Nutrition

### Diversity and Minority Issues

***Don't see a topic that fits your needs?  
Please submit suggestions for topics with  
your request for a speaker to  
[mcsw@state.ma.us](mailto:mcsw@state.ma.us).***

## Did You Know?

- Just a quarter of state legislators are women, and only one member of the Massachusetts' congressional delegation is a woman.
- The poverty rate for working women is higher than the poverty rate for working men.
- Young women enroll in college in greater numbers than young men.
- Mortality rates of Massachusetts' women from breast cancer and lung cancer are among the highest in the nation. The incidence rate of AIDS in Massachusetts's women is also among the highest in the nation.
- On average, women in Massachusetts earn just 77% of what men earn.